

REMARKS

In the above referenced Office Action, the Examiner divided the claims into the following groups:

Claims 1-39, drawn to an apparatus, classified in class 244.

Claims 40-51 drawn to a method, classified in class 220.

In addition, the Examiner requested an election of species from the following groups:

Species A refers to figures 1-4.

Species B refers to figures 5A-5E

Species C refers to figures 6A-6B

Species D refers to figures 6C-6F.

Species E refers to figure 6G

Species F refers to figures 7A-7C

Species G refers to figures 8A-8B, 9A, 9B

Species H refers o figures 10A-10D

Species I refers to figures 10E-10F

Species J refers to figures 11A-11G

Species K refers to figures 12A-12E

Species L refers to figure 13A

Species M refers to figure 13B

Species N refers to figure 13C

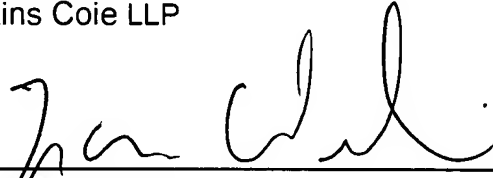
Species O refers to figures 13D-13F

In response, the applicants elect Group I, Claims 1-39, without traverse. Non-elected claims, 40-51, have been canceled without prejudice. Applicants also elect claims directed to species B and accordingly withdraw claims 16, 19, 32, 33 and 35. Applicants explicitly request consideration of these claims upon allowance of a suitable generic claim. Claims 3, 7 and 24 have been amended to clarify minor typographical errors.

No fees are believed due with this communication. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized and requested to charge any deficiency in fees herein to Deposit Account No. 50-0665.

Respectfully submitted,

Perkins Coie LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John M. Wechkin', is written over a horizontal line.

John M. Wechkin

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Date: Nov. 17, 2004

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